

Application No. 09/454,755  
Office Action dated 7/27/04  
Preliminary Amendment

PATENT  
CENTER  
JAN 25 2005

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for converting an original set of source objects by reducing the number of objects required to display a description document, said apparatus comprising a generating means for generating a set of new objects, from said original set of source objects in the document, a number of new objects in said set of new objects being fewer than a number of objects in said original set of source objects, said fewer objects obtaining a display image equivalent to the display of an image obtained from said original set of source objects,

wherein said generating means generates said new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object,

wherein said generating means generates a new merged object including at least a first source object having an area and a second source object having an area and superimposed on said first source object.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said generating means deletes source objects hidden spatially behind another source object which is not ~~transparent nor~~ translucent.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein generation of said new object from said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and said other source objects is performed for a time range in which said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object spatially overlaps said other source objects.

5. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein said generating means deletes a source object when a display time for said source object is out of a display time range for said set of source objects.

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6. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a means for storing said set of new objects to a storage medium.

7. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a means for selectively storing said set of source objects or said set of new objects to a storage medium.

8. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, further comprising a means for displaying said set of new objects, wherein said apparatus is used as a browser.

9. (Original) The apparatus as recited in claims 1, further comprising a means for selectively displaying said set of source objects or said set of new objects, wherein said apparatus is used as a browser.

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10. (Currently Amended) A method for converting an original set of source objects by reducing the number of objects required to display a description document, said method comprising a step of generating a set of new objects, from said original set of source objects in the document, a number of said new objects forming a set of new objects fewer than a number of said source objects forming said original set of source objects, to obtain a display image equivalent to the display image obtained from said set of source objects,

wherein said generation step generates said new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object,

wherein said generating step generates a new merged object including at least a first source object having an area and a second source object having an area and superimposed on said first source object.

11. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein said generation step deletes source objects hidden spatially behind another source object which is not ~~transparent or~~ translucent.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein generation of said new object from said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and said other source objects is performed for a time range in which said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object spatially overlaps said other source objects.

14. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein said generation step deletes a source object when a display time for said source object is out of a display time range for said set of source objects.

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15. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising a step of storing said set of new objects to a storage medium.

16. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising a step of selectively storing said set of source objects or said set of new objects to a storage medium.

17. (Original) The method as recited in claim 10, further comprising a step of displaying said set of new objects.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claims 10, further comprising a step of selectively displaying said set of source objects or said set of new objects.

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19. (Currently Amended) A computer program for causing a computer to execute a method for converting an object display description document by reducing the number of objects required for the display, said method comprising a generation step of generating, from an original set of source objects in the document, a set of new objects which are fewer than a number of said objects forming said original set of source objects, in order to obtain a display image equivalent to the display image obtained from said original set of source objects,

wherein said generation step generates new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object,

wherein said generating step generates a new merged object including at least a first source object having an area and a second source object having an area and superimposed on said first source object.

20. (Currently Amended) The program as recited in claim 19, wherein said generation step deletes source objects hidden spatially behind another source object which is not ~~transparent or~~ translucent.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently Amended) The program as recited in claim 19, wherein generation of said new object from said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and said other source objects is performed for a time range in which said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object spatially overlaps said other source objects.

23. (Original) The program as recited in claim 19, wherein said generation step deletes a source object when a display time for said source object is out of a display time range for said set of source objects.

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24. (Original) The program as recited in claim 19, further comprising a step of storing said set of new objects to a storage medium.

25. (Currently Amended) The program as recited in claim 19, further comprising a step 10 of selectively storing said set of source objects or said set of new objects to a storage medium.

26. (Original) The program as recited in claim 19, further comprising a step of displaying said set of new objects.

27. (Original) The program as recited in claims 19, further comprising a step of selectively displaying said set of source objects or said set of new objects.

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28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for converting an original set of source objects by reducing the number of objects required to display a description document, said apparatus comprising a generating means for generating a set of new objects, from said original set of source objects in the document, a number of new objects in said set of new objects being fewer than a number of objects in said original set of source objects, said fewer objects obtaining a display image equivalent to the display of an image obtained from said original set of source objects,

wherein said generating means generates said new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects not ~~transparent nor~~ translucent and located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source objects,

wherein said generating means generates a new merged object including at least a first source object and a second source object superimposed on said first source object.

29. (Currently Amended) A method for converting an original set of source objects by reducing the number of objects required to display a description document, said method comprising a step of generating a set of new objects, from said original set of source objects in the document, a number of said new objects forming a set of new objects fewer than a number of said source objects forming said original set of source objects, to obtain a display image equivalent to the display image obtained from said set of source objects,

wherein said generation step generates said new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects not ~~transparent nor~~ translucent and located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object,

wherein said generating step generates a new merged object including at least a first source object and a second source object superimposed on said first source object.

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30. (Currently Amended) A computer program for causing a computer to execute a method for converting an object display description document by reducing the number of objects required for the display, said method comprising a generation step of generating, from an original set of source objects in the document, a set of new objects which are fewer than a number of said objects forming said original set of source objects, in order to obtain a display image equivalent to the display image obtained from said original set of source objects.

wherein said generation step generates new objects from a ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and other source objects not ~~transparent nor~~ translucent and located at a layer lower than a layer including said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object and spatially overlapping said ~~transparent or~~ translucent source object-1 object,

wherein said generating step generates a new merged object including at least a first source object and a second source object superimposed on said first source object.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)